

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 526

By Goins

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate John Hale and Sydney Burchell upon their superior performance at the Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair and the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those young people who have devoted their minds to scientific experimentation and innovation; and

WHEREAS, Morristown-Hamblen High School East students John Hale, a senior, and Sydney Burchell, a sophomore, were crowned Senior Division Grand Champions at the 2013 Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, under the supervision of their science teacher, Robert Gant, John and Sydney found a solution for a waste management problem confronting Ole' Smoky Moonshine Distillery in Gatlinburg; and

WHEREAS, the spent mash, called stillage, that is a by-product of the distilling process cannot be disposed of through the municipal sewer system, and thus the distillery is forced to store the stillage in a 10,000 gallon tank; and

WHEREAS, through their project, John and Sydney found an alternative use for the stillage; using many common items found in a hardware or grocery store and some MacGyveresque ingenuity, they developed a process in which the glycerin from the mash is extracted for use as a co-product of fish food and the leftover water is filtered to a reusable state; and

WHEREAS, claiming the championship at the Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair automatically qualified John and Sydney to compete in the 2013 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair held in Phoenix; and

WHEREAS, John and Sydney's impressive project claimed first place honors in Environmental Management, and they placed 17th overall in the world; and

WHEREAS, John and Sydney each received a four-year scholarship to West Virginia University and a cash prize for their project at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair; and

WHEREAS, these two outstanding students have brought great honor to the State of Tennessee through their groundbreaking work in environmental science, and they should be appropriately honored; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Morristown-Hamblen High School East students John Hale and Sydney Burchell for winning the Senior Division Grand Championship at the Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair and placing first in Environmental Management at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, and we extend to them our best wishes for much continued success in their scientific endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.